

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/666,253

Examiner

Richard Franklin

Applicant(s)

MAEHARA, HIDEJIROU

Art Unit

2181

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 25 January 2007 and entered 26 February 2007 with the filing of an RCE.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-9,13-23,27 and 28.

3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:

1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.

(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____

4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____

7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1 – 9, 13 – 23, and 27 – 28 are pending.

Continued Examination

2. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 25 January 2007 has been entered.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1 – 9, 13 – 23, and 27 – 28 are allowed.
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1 – 9, 13 – 23, and 27 – 28 are allowed because the prior art of reference does not teach or suggest alone or in combination ***a web page creating means that creates a Web page containing detailed information about the problems detected in an image reporting and reproducing process and a user customizable designation corresponding to the image reproducing apparatus; and an e-mail creating means that creates an e-mail to report the occurrence of the one of the problems to the selected addressee and inserts the problem ID code, the user customizable designation and a URL of the Web page in a subject field of the e-mail***, as required

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by independent claims 1, 13 – 15, and 27 – 28, ***in combination with the other recited claim limitations*** (emphasis added). Applicant has argued this deficiency of the prior art in the response filed on 25 January 2007 on pages 12 – 13. Support for the limitations listed above can be found in the originally filed specification at Figure 6A, Figure 8, and page 28 line 23 – page 29 line 10. Previously relied upon reference, US Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0116480 (hereinafter Muto), teaches an imaging reproducing apparatus that creates an email to report the occurrence of a problem in the apparatus by placing a problem ID in the subject of the email (Muto; Paragraph [0067]). US Patent No. 6,088,125 (hereinafter Okada) teaches a facsimile machine that stores an addressee in association with each problem (Okada; Col 16 Lines 28 – 50). US Patent No. 6,666,594 (hereinafter Parry) teaches creating a web page containing detailed information about the problems detected in the printer (Parry; Col 8 Lines 9 – 25). US Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0120775 (hereinafter York) teaches inserting a URL of a web page into the subject of an email (York; Paragraphs [0032] and [0035]). US Patent No. 6,622,266 (hereinafter Goddard) teaches addressee information is selected based on the severity of a problem that is detected (Goddard; Col 3 Lines 52 – 65). However, neither Muto, Okada, Parry, York, or Goddard disclose placing a user customizable designation corresponding to the image reproducing apparatus onto a web page or into the subject of an email in response to the detection of an error in an image reproducing apparatus.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

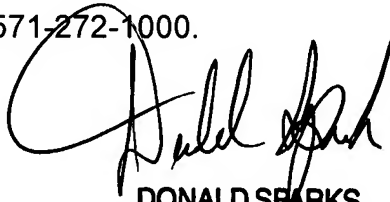
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Richard Franklin whose telephone number is (571) 272-0669. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Donald Sparks can be reached on (571) 272-4201. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Richard Franklin
Patent Examiner
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DONALD SPARKS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER